DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF PRIONOCHILUS FROM THE HIGHLANDS OF LUZON

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One colored plate

Prionochilus anthonyi sp. nov.

Specific characters.—Top of head with a conspicuous yellow patch; remainder of upper parts glossy black; chin and throat white; remainder of under parts yellow; under tail-coverts cadmium yellow.

Type.—No. 7515, δ , Bureau of Science collection. Polis Mountain, Ifugao subprovince, Luzon, P. I. Collected February 7, 1913, by R. C. McGregor and A. Celestino.

Description of type.—Forehead, lores, circumocular region, and auriculars black with very little gloss; crown and occiput cadmium yellow; neck, back, rump, upper tail-coverts and median and lesser wing-coverts black glossed with dusky dull bluish green; primaries and their coverts, secondaries and their greater coverts, and rectrices fuscous to chaetura black; edge of wing, wing-lining, axillars, and inner edges of primaries white; chin, throat, and malar region white; remainder of under parts green or yellow; sides of breast citrine, becoming more yellowish on flanks; middle of breast and abdomen empire yellow; under tailcoverts cadmium yellow. Iris brown; bill black; legs, feet, and nails blackish slate; soles pale yellow. Length in flesh, 106 mm.; wing, 56; tail, 29; tarsus, 16.

Remarks.—Prionochilus anthonyi does not resemble any other Philippine species of the genus and appears to differ from all other described species in pattern of coloration. The bill is similar in proportions to that of P. quadricolor Tweeddale, but is very much larger. The bill is much stouter than in P. johannæ Sharpe. The type and only specimen was collected in the mossy forest near the summit of the Government trail between Banaue and Bontoc, within a few meters of the rest house on the Banaue side. The elevation of the rest house is about 2,000 meters. The species is named for Alfred Webster Anthony.

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ILLUSTRATION

PLATE I. Prionochilus anthonyi sp. nov. (Drawn and colored from the type by T. Espinosa.)

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PLATE I. PRIONOCHILUS ANTHONYI SP. NOV.